Homework & Research at Huntsville Public Library

Need to do some research? This guide will steer you in the right direction, whether you're a beginning researcher or a pro.

Online

Use the TexShare Databases – FREE tools which always provide accurate information – something a search engine can't promise. Go to our website, www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com, click on "Online Databases" at the left, and click on "TexShare Databases." Call us (936-291-5472) if you are asked for a username and password.

Searchasaurus – For children in elementary school
Ebsco Kids Search – For children in middle school
Ebsco Student Research Center – For children in grades 6-12
Academic Search Complete – For older teens and adults

All of these databases also provide help with citing your sources. Be sure to look at the entire list to find the one that fits your need best.

Books

To find books on different research topics, your first stop should be our online catalog, which you can access by visiting the website at www.myhuntsvillelibrary.com. Click on "Search the Catalog" at the left.

How to Use the Catalog for Research
Once you are at the main catalog page, click on "Power Search." In the first box, type in the topic you need to research. Below this box, there is a drop-down menu labeled "Location." Choose "Juvenile Non-Fiction," "Young Adult Non-Fiction," or "Adult Non-Fiction," and then click "Search." A list of appropriate books will appear.

Need Help?
The staff at the library is always ready to provide assistance! Let us help you find the books you need.

Turn the page over for citation help →

Citations

Use this list of resources to help you give credit to the books and websites you use when you write research papers. Be sure to check with your teacher or professor to make sure you are citing in the correct format: MLA, APA, or Chicago.

Online
Purdue University's Online Writing Lab (owl.english.purdue.edu) – A good overview of citation in general and specific help with citing sources in MLA, APA, or Chicago format. The OWL also provides sample pages of correctly-formatted Works Cited. This is THE free place to go on the web for citation help.

BibMe (www.bibme.org) – Automatic citation of books, magazines, newspapers, websites, and more. Simply use their search tool to find the correct resource, and the site creates the citation for you. Also includes citation guides and sample pages in MLA, APA, and Chicago formats – so you can check the automated citations for correctness.

Easy Bib (www.easybib.com) – Cites your sources for you automatically in MLA, APA, or Chicago format – just search for the appropriate website, book, newspaper article, or other resource. Be sure to check the result for correctness.

Citation Machine (www.citationmachine.net) and *Citation Creation* (www.citationcreation.com) – Allow you to plug in information from the resources you use and format the citation for you automatically in either MLA, APA, or Chicago format.

Book
The library has an MLA style guide available, but it cannot be checked out.

MLA Style Manual & Guide to Scholarly Publishing
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